COUNTRY REPORT – JAPAN

(For CDNLAO Meeting on 7 May 2007)

0. The National Diet Library (NDL) in FY2006: General Overview

The NDL has been continuing its efforts to provide better service through its three facilities, that is, the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL). The following four priority areas defined in "NDL Vision 2004" (the mid-and-long-term basic policies of the NDL) have been especially emphasized: 1) Enhancement of legislative support function; 2) Creation of digital archives; 3) Improvement of access to information resources; and 4) Promotion of cooperation.

In the framework of the activity evaluation system introduced in 2004 to fulfill the Vision, service standards have been set out for each fiscal year, aiming to keep up service performances in an open and consistent manner. For the same purpose of improving services to users, NDL has been conducting a user questionnaire survey each year since FY2003. In FY2006, the survey was targeted at remote users and was conducted from July to September. The result shows that users' satisfaction level is higher than in previous years in most of the services, especially copying service by mail and NDL-OPAC service. Each of the three facilities is working on providing better services for on-site users. For example, the Tokyo Main Library improved its digital information service by introducing new contents including electronic journals and providing access to the Internet in the reading rooms. The Kansai-kan started the same service in April 2007.

The NDL has also continued to enrich the contents of its digital library services. For the Digital Library from the Meiji Era, more data were added in April 2006. This database, launched in 2002, has now data of about 89,000 titles (127,000 volumes), or 75 % of books published in the Meiji era (1868-1912) held by the NDL. In July, a new electronic exhibition "Modern Japan in archives" was made available to join nine other exhibitions on the NDL website. The Index Database to Japanese Laws, Regulations and Bills was upgraded with the Early Meiji Era edition, which enables users to search Japanese laws and regulations from October 1867. In addition, the Picture Book Gallery of the ILCL also had two new contents in 2006.

In the field of digital archiving, the Web Archiving Project (WARP), which started in FY2002 on an experimental basis, moved into the operational stage in FY2006. The NDL has also been

working on developing a digital archive portal which will navigate users to digital information resources throughout Japan. The portal, now operating as a prototype system, will offer full-scale service in 2007. The NDL Digital Archive System (NDL DA System), which will be the infrastructure for NDL's overall operations relating to digital information, has also been constructed.

The NDL constructs and provides many databases and website contents. To let the public know about them and encourage their use, an NDL Database Forum was held in December 2006 and NDL staff introduced and explained about 20 databases and contents. Being the first approach of this kind for the NDL, the event gathered about 300 participants.

The NDL supports and cooperates with other libraries and institutions by offering training programs for librarians and providing research information on library and information science. In June 2006, a portal for research information named "Current Awareness Portal" was launched to offer easier access to the latest information related to libraries inside and outside the country as well as the contents of the NDL's regular publications in the field of library and information science. As for training programs, in addition to those conducted each year, a remote training program started in 2006. The first course material was on the preservation of library materials.

In August 2006, the World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA Annual Conference was held in Seoul, Korea. Eighteen NDL staff members participated in the conference and eight of our delegates made presentations. The NDL also set up an exhibition booth to introduce its roles and activities with a focus on digital library services and preservation activities. A pre-conference with the theme "Preservation and Conservation in Asia" was also held at the Tokyo Main Library, sponsored by the IFLA (Preservation and Conservation Section, Asia Oceania Section and IFLA/PAC Core Activity) and co-sponsored by the NDL (IFLA/PAC Regional Centre for Asia). After the Annual Conference, the NDL and the JLA held a professional tour of the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL) and other children's libraries.

The year 2006 marked the 100th anniversary of the building of the former Imperial Library, one of the predecessors of the NDL, which was renovated to house the ILCL. As the centennial commemorative event, the ILCL held an exhibition which presented the building's history by showing panels of the old and new reading rooms and the technical aspects of the renovated building, a conference meeting and a guided tour of the building.

1. National Library

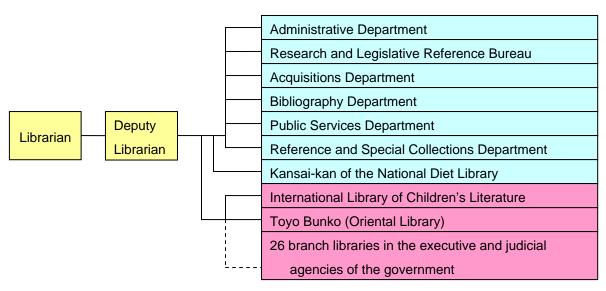
Organizational structure

The National Diet Library (NDL) is the only national library in Japan. It belongs to the National Diet (the country's legislature) and is supervised by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the House of Councillors, or more specifically by the Standing Committees on Rules and Administration of the two Houses. The presiding officers of the two Houses appoint the Librarian of the NDL with the approval of the Houses, and the Standing Committees on Rules and Administration examine and approve NDL's management rules, operations and budget.

The NDL consists of the following libraries:

- (1) The Main Library comprising the Administrative Department, Research and Legislative Reference Bureau, Acquisitions Department, Bibliography Department, Public Services Department, Reference and Special Collections Department, and the Kansai-kan.
- (2) The International Library of Children's Literature
- (3) The Toyo Bunko (Oriental Library)
- (4) Twenty-six branch libraries in the executive and judicial agencies of the government

The Branch Libraries in the government ministries, agencies and the Supreme Court not only provide library services but also acquire government publications for the NDL. This unique function of Branch Library System has no counterpart in other countries.



Manpower

As of April 2007, the NDL has 923 staff including the Librarian and Deputy Librarian. Regular staff are recruited through open competitive examinations.

Library users

The NDL serves three types of users: the Diet members, the executive and judicial agencies of Japan, and the general public.

(1) Diet members

The Research and Legislative Reference Bureau is specialized in the principal function of providing research services to the Diet. The mainstay of the work of the Bureau is research for formulating draft laws. This work is divided into the "research on request" based on requests from the Diet (i.e., the Houses, Committees and Diet Members) and the "anticipatory research" based on the prediction of requests from the Diet.

(2) Executive and judicial agencies

The NDL provides library services to the executive and judicial agencies through the Branch Library System, which is a library network formed by the NDL as the central library and its branch libraries in government ministries, agencies and the Supreme Court. The network is intended to facilitate the exchange of publications among the government ministries and agencies, reciprocal lending of materials, execution of various investigations, and wide-ranging cooperation among the libraries. The NDL provides training for Branch Library staff members and carries out activities to keep the network operating effectively.

(3) General public

The NDL provides on-site library services, including reading and photocopying services, at three facilities: the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL). The NDL also offers remote user services, which are available without visiting the NDL in person, such as online photocopying requests.

Anybody 18 years of age or older can use the services in the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan. People under the age of 18 can also use the ILCL except for some rooms for researchers of children's literature.

The number of visitors to each facility in FY 2005 is as follows:

	Total	Daily average
Tokyo Main Library	410,505	1,466

Kansai-kan	69,476	248
ILCL	130,877	459

Reference: http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/statistics_05.html#04-2

User Registration System

The NDL has combined its library services and online book catalogs into an integrated electronic system. In this system, users may register their names, addresses, etc. to use the NDL services more conveniently.

- ♦ User registration is valid for both the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan.
- ♦ User registration is free of charge.
- ♦ There are two registration systems: one for individuals and the other for institutions.

The number of registrants (as individuals, FY2005) is 97,425. (*Reference: Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2005)*)

Collection

Total Collection

Number of collections (as of FY2005):

Books	8,598,798 volumes
Japanese, Chinese	6,199,302 volumes
Western	2,399,496 volumes
Serial publications	11,217,928 items
Periodicals	7,702,208 items
Japanese	4,879,601 items
Overseas	2,822,607 items
Newspapers	3,515,710 items
Japanese	2,422,532 items
Overseas	1,093,178 items
Microforms	8,426,717 items
Sound recordings	581,783 items
Maps	450,310 sheets

Doctoral dissertations	454,465 titles
Doctoral dissertations	434,403 titles

Reference: Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2005)

Major collections of the National Diet Library:

Modern Japanese Political History Documents

Collections of private papers which trace Japanese modern political history in and after the latter half of the 19th century. The 300,000 items comprise mainly diaries, letters, drafts and memorandums once owned by eminent statesmen, diplomats, military men, government officials and businessmen who were involved in modern Japanese politics.

Materials on the Allied Occupation of Japan

A microform collection of documents concerning the Allied Occupation of Japan in the post WW II period. The main part of the collection comprises documents of GHQ/SCAP (General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers) currently owned by the U.S. National Archives & Records Administration. Also included are the documents of the Far Eastern Commission and the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey and the Prange Collection held by the University of Maryland. All of the documents in this collection are stored in microfilms.

Laws and Parliamentary Records

The greatest collection of laws and parliamentary materials in Japan, comprising 310,000 Japanese and 430,000 foreign books, 530,000 Japanese periodicals, 780,000 foreign periodicals, and 1.9 million of microforms. They include minutes and other parliamentary documents of about 70 countries and areas, and official gazettes, statutes, court reports and treaties of about 150 countries.

Map Collection

The NDL has approximately 500,000 domestic and foreign maps, consisting of official maps of Japan since the Meiji Era, such as topographic maps, geological maps and hydrographic charts, and topographic and other kinds of maps of foreign countries.

Foreign Books on Japan

Since the era of the Imperial Library, the predecessor of the NDL, books on Japan written in foreign languages have been given high priority in the acquisition policy.

Science and Technology Materials

The collection includes technical reports, doctoral dissertations of foreign countries, papers of academic associations, proceedings in western languages, national and international standards, and patents of foreign countries.

Unique and rare collections

Rare Books and Old Materials

The NDL holds about 300,000 volumes of rare books, semi-rare books, Japanese old books up to the Edo Period, Chinese old books up to the Ch'ing Dynasty, Dutch books, etc. They include special collections such as *The Tokugawa Shogunate Government Succession Documents, Ito Bunko, Shirai Bunko*, and *Shinjo Bunko*.

"Ito Bunko, Shirai Bunko"

These two collections comprise a combined total of about 8,000 handwritten and block-printed books produced from the Edo to the Meiji Period on the subject of "honzo" or medicinal herbs.

"Shinjo Bunko"

This is a collection of 12,000 items of old writings on astronomy and calendars.

Asian Materials

The collection contains materials in Chinese, Korean and other Asian languages as well as Japanese and Western languages concerning East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa.

Reference: National Diet Library booklet (August 2006)

Secondary publication, e.g. bibliographies, indexes

Bibliographies and indexes published by the National Diet Library in FY 2005:

a) Catalog of Books

Book Catalog

Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List (Weekly)

CD-R

JAPAN/MARC(M) [Japanese National Bibliography (Books)] (1977-) (Weekly)

CD-ROM

J-BISC [Japanese National Bibliography (Books)] Current Edition (1992-) (6/Y)

DVD-ROM

J-BISC [Japanese National Bibliography (Books)] DVD Update Edition (Meiji Era - 2005)

b) Catalog of Serials

CD-R

JAPAN/MARC(S) [Japanese National Bibliography (Serials)] (2/Y)

c) Japanese Periodicals Index

CD-R

National Diet Library Japanese Periodicals Index CD-R (25/Y)

HD or **DAT**

National Diet Library Japanese Periodicals Index (1948-2003)

d) Special Bibliographies

NDL CD-ROM Line: National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books (2/Y)

Reference: How to obrtain the publications from NDL (supplement), National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin No.551, February 2007

Audio-visual materials

The NDL holds approximately 530,000 copies of phonographic records and CDs issued in Japan, most of which have been deposited by 24 member companies of the Recording Industry Association of Japan since 1949, and 20,000 visual media such as DVDs and VHS videos acquired since 2000, the year in which the National Diet Library Law was revised to include offline digital publications in the scope of the legal deposit system. These materials are available in the Audio-Visual Materials Room, Tokyo Main Library, where seats, indexes, search terminals and players are provided for users.

National and special databases

a) Web-accessible NDL databases and information services

NDL-OPAC (National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog)

http://opac.ndl.go.jp/ covers books, serials and newspapers in Japanese and Western languages, Japanese Periodicals Index, Japanese doctoral dissertations, digital resources, standards, technical reports, etc. Registered users can request online copying service.

NDL Asian Materials OPAChttp://asiaopac.ndl.go.jp/index_e.html>covers Asian books and periodicals.

Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List (see "National bibliographic services" (p. 11))

Books on Japan http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/publication/books_on_japan/boj_top_E.html

provides bibliographic information of books on Japan in Western languages processed by the National Diet Library (NDL) in and after 2002 on a quarterly basis.

Directory of Japanese Scientific Periodicals Database covers serials on science and technology edited and published by organizations operating in Japan.

Full-Text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet http://kokkai.ndl.go.jp/ offers search and full-text display of debates in the plenary sessions and committee meetings of both Houses since the 1st session (May, 1947).

Database System for the Minutes of the Imperial Diet http://teikokugikai-i.ndl.go.jp/ provides access to the proceedings from the 88th session to the 92nd session (September 1945 to March 1947) as of April 2007. By the end of FY2009 it will provide access to image data of 300,000 pages of minutes including supplements, tables of contents and indexes, covering all the sessions of the Imperial Diet and text data of the stenographic records and supplements of the 88th-92nd sessions.

Rare Books Image Database provides colorful images from the collections of the NDL published mostly in the Edo Period. Image data can be searched and viewed for enjoyment.

Digital Library from the Meiji Era is an image database of the books published in the Meiji Period held by the NDL. (see "The National Diet Library in FY2006: General Overview" (p.1-2)

Electronic Exhibition includes "Rare Books of the National Diet Library," "Nippon in the World," "Birth of the Constitution of Japan," "The Japanese Calendar," "Japanese Ex-libris Stamps," "Portraits of Modern Japanese Historical Figures," "Incunabula—Dawn of Western Printing," "Fauna and Flora in Illustrations — Natural History of the Edo era —," etc.

Bibliography of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics is a bibliography of selected Japanese books that have been published since the Meiji period about Japanese involved in modern Japanese politics.

Dnavi (Database Navigation Service) helps users to find databases on the Internet.

WARP (**Web Archiving Project**) collects and preserves websites and online periodicals on the Internet as cultural heritage. In FY 2005, the NDL attempted to increase its collection and started to develop free text retrieval. In July of 2006 the NDL upgraded the project that was

already well under way. It relaunched the website, and retrieval of the body texts of what has been collected is now available.

Digital Archive Portal provides an integrated search function over various digital contents in

Japan. The prototype system has been test-run since FY2004.

Reference: National Diet Library website

b) Union Catalogs managed by the NDL

Union Catalog Database

A database system which makes it possible to search bibliographic data of Japanese monographs owned by prefectural and major municipal libraries and also facilitates interlibrary

loans among these libraries. (see also "Library network" (p.14))

Union Catalog of Newspapers in Japan Database

The NDL provides a database named the "Union Catalog of Newspapers in Japan Database." By using this database people can search locations of newspapers including reprints, reduced editions and microfilms held by 13,000 libraries, universities, newspaper publishers and other

institutions in Japan as well as the NDL.

National Union Catalog of Braille and Recorded Books

Catalog of Braille and recorded books made for the blind by public libraries and Braille libraries, etc. in Japan.

ILCL Union Catalog Database of Children's Literature

The Union Catalog Database of Children's Literature enables users to search at the same time collection information on the collections of the major Japanese institutions holding children's

literature.

Services

Reference

The number of reference service the NDL provided in FY2005 was 579,172.

Collaborative Reference Database System

NDL launched the Collaborative Reference Database System in April 2005 after a three-year trial period. It collects and makes available reference inquiries and answers to them provided by the NDL and other libraries in Japan. 442 libraries have participated and about 25,000 data have been accumulated (as of February 2007).

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Reference Information System

NDL is also developing the Reference Information System that consists of several databases useful for reference services, such as "Introduction of Reference Books" and "Subject Guide."

Lending, incl. interlibrary loan

The circulation number (for reference use inside the three facilities of the NDL) was 2,311,603 items for FY2005. As for Inter-library loan, the NDL lent out 27,365 items to other institutions and libraries including libraries overseas. Requests are made via NDL-OPAC, postal mail, fax and through the NDL-ILL system.

National bibliographic services

Provision of the national bibliography

"Japanese National Bibliography Weekly List" is available on the NDL website http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/publication/jnbwl/jnb_top.html>.

It is published weekly on the Internet and covers books, serials and electronic publications. Maps, audio-visual materials and Asian materials published in Japan have been covered since FY2003. Publication in paper form will be terminated in July 2007.

Reading promotion

The International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL), a branch of the NDL, offers services to children, in cooperation with local libraries, aiming at awakening them to the pleasure of reading and providing opportunities for familiarity with books and libraries. In addition to the regular reader services, storytelling and guided tours, the ILCL conducted the following activities in FY2006:

- a) Workshops: "Special events for children during the spring vacation," "Fun with science: Enjoying a variety of sounds making instruments with things near at hand," and others
- b) Exhibitions: "Struwwelpeter and other German children's books," "Northern gifts Children's books from the Nordic countries" and "Look up at the Sky: Children's Books on the Sun, Moon, and Stars"
- c) Book Sets Lending Service for school libraries*: started lending out the "Meet the World set (for senior children at elementary schools)" in addition to the "Asia set (China, Southeast Asia)," "Canada and USA set," "Korea set," "Scandinavia set" and the "Meet the World set (for younger children at elementary schools)."
- * This service provides boxes of books on a specific subject to elementary schools, junior high schools and high schools with the purpose of expanding children's

understanding of foreign countries. One box contains about 40 books, which are lent out for a month.

Acquisition, donation and exchange

In FY2005, the NDL accessioned 65,499 books by purchase, 138,093 through legal deposit, 26,166 by donation. Through international exchange, it received 5,866 official publications (books) and 1,290 commercial publications (books), and provided 30,098 official publications (books) and 495 commercial publications (books) in the same fiscal year.

International Exchange of Publications:

http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/cooperation_exchange.html

Reference: Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2005)

Projects

Seminars, workshops, etc.

- 10th Preservation and Conservation Training Program
- · Practical workshop for librarians on early Japanese books FY2006
- Training program on digitization FY2006
- Workshop on the Collaborative Reference Database System
- Training program for information specialists for Japanese studies FY2006
- Training program on Asian information FY2006
- Training program on science and technology materials FY2006
- Training program on reference FY2006
- Training program for staff of prefectural assembly libraries FY2006
- ILCL Lecture Series on Children's Literature FY2006
- NDL remote training program

> Local, regional and international

- NDL Union Catalog Network
- Cooperative Reference Database Project

For details, please see "Library Network" (p.14)

Physical facilities

The NDL finished the renovation of the Tokyo Main Library in 2004. We are now considering the expansion of the facilities of the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL).

Affiliations, cooperation, membership (local and foreign)

- Japan Library Association (JLA)
- · Japan Special Libraries Association (JSLA)
- · International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
- · Association of Parliamentary Librarians of Asia and the Pacific (APLAP)

2. Library at the national level

(1) Number of:

(as of 2006)

Library Councils/Associations/Foundations	
Associations	17
Councils	15
Learned societies	12
Study groups, etc.	18
Public Libraries	3,082
University Libraries	1,654
Special/Private Libraries	920
Government Libraries	153

References: Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2006
Directory of Special Libraries, Japan 2006

(2) New libraries being established

New libraries established in FY2005:

Public Libraries	113*
Academic Libraries	16**

*Includes the number of libraries newly enacted by law, but without new buildings

Reference: Library Year Book 2006

(3) Digital library initiatives

As a national library, the NDL promotes the digital library project positively in order to accommodate a highly-developed information environment. Based on the "National Diet Library Electronic Library Concept" drawn up in 1998, the NDL has provided access to various primary information sources. Please refer to "National and special databases" (p.8-10) for the list of online catalogs, bibliography and databases available on the NDL website. In February 2004, the NDL produced the "National Diet Library Digital Library Medium Term Plan 2004"

^{**}Includes the number of libraries with a change in name, but without new buildings

and since then, it has been working on projects of constructing digital archives. The outline of NDL's recent initiatives in this field is introduced in "The National Diet Library in FY2006: General Overview" (p.1-2).

(4) Library and manpower development

In order to develop library personnel, there are several training programs for librarians organized by national institutions as well as by local governments and library associations.

For the future libraries and librarians in Japan, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, which is responsible for library administration, has decided to continue the conference of associates, which started in 2004, aiming to discuss the future shape of libraries. After having 11 meetings through 2004-2006, the conference released a report in March 2006 on the future image of the library as the information base of the community. It calls for local authorities, librarians, community residents and institutions to reaffirm their recognition of libraries, and to make efforts for the development of libraries in each position. It also adverts to the role of the nation, prefectural and city governments and the NDL. The ongoing conference in FY2007 will deal with the improvement of the qualifications and quality of librarians, and the methods of training them.

References: Library Year Book 2006

Library Journal, vol. 100, no. 5, no. 10

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology website http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shougai/tosho/shiryo/06111004/001.htm http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/houdou/18/04/06032701.htm

3. Infrastructure

Library network

The NDL manages the "NDL Union Catalog Network" with the participation of 1,021 public libraries as well as other several union catalogs such as newspapers, braille and recorded books as infrastructure for interlibrary cooperation. It also conducts the "Cooperative Reference Database Project," which collects and accumulates data of reference cases from Japanese libraries and provides them on the Internet.

Telecommunication facilities, e.g. dial-up, broadband, VSAT

As to the connectivity at national level, in February 2006 it was estimated that about 73 million of the Japanese population had Internet access, which shows an increase of about 3.5 million

over the previous year. The rate of increase seems to be slowing down. It was also estimated that 85.4% of Japanese households had Internet access in some way and 57.3% at home. 41.4% of Internet connections at home are broadband connections. (Source: http://www.iajapan.org/iwp/)

4. Preservation

Activities, incl. digital preservation / Reprography, photography and microphotography

For paper materials, binding and repairing work is done on a routine basis. Microphotographing and digitization are used for rare materials in paper form and damaged materials. 27,490 books, 1,602 titles of newspapers, 1,366 volumes of magazines and 24,912 non-book materials were microfilmed or microfiched, and 1,100 non-book materials were digitized in FY2005 (digitization for purposes other than preservation is excluded from this number). (*Reference: Annual Report of the National Diet Library (FY2005)*)

Since 1989, the NDL has been promoting preservation activities not only in Japan, but also in other Asian countries as the Asia Regional Centre for the IFLA PAC (Preservation and Conservation) Core Programme.

The NDL conducted research on the preservation of packaged digital publication and published the report "The Long-term Accessibility of Packaged Digital Publications" in March 2006.

Disaster preparedness

The NDL has been holding forums on preservation since 1990, sometimes under a theme related to measures against disaster. In 2004, a manual on measurement against small-scale water damage was created.

5. Education and training

Number of Professional Librarians (as of 2006)

Public Libraries	full-time librarian	7,028
	full-time staff	7,042
	concurrent librarian	114
	concurrent staff	1,294

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	part-time librarian	4,503.8**
	part-time staff	2,478.1**
	temporary librarian	2,703.2**
	temporary staff	4,276.6**
Academic Libraries	full-time staff (including librarians)	6,438
	concurrent staff (including librarians)	1,473
	part-time staff (including librarians)	2,432
	temporary staff (including librarians)	2,457
C	full-time staff (including librarians)	123
Government Libraries*	concurrent staff (including librarians)	80
National Diet Library	full-time staff (including librarians)	923***

^{*}Statistics of national government libraries only

References: Statistics on Libraries in Japan 2006

Directory of Special Libraries, Japan 2006

NDL website

http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/outline_03finances.html#organization

Number of Library training schools

Number of schools that have courses for librarians and for teacher librarians (as of FY2005):

For librarians	242
For teacher librarians	56

References: Library Year Book 2006

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology website http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shougai/gakugei/shisyo/04040502.htm http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/houdou/17/06/05060101/001.htm

6. Copyright and library act

Library act / Legal deposit act

As for laws concerning libraries in Japan, there are the Library Law (enacted in 1950), School Library Law (enacted in 1953) and the National Diet Library Law (enacted in 1948). The latter includes provisions which stipulate the legal deposit system.

^{**}Calculated based on one person = 1,500 working hours / year

^{***}As of April 2007

Copyright associations, organizations, clearance centers

As for Copyright Clearance Centres, there are 35 centers according to the Agency for Cultural Affairs website (http://www.bunka.go.jp/ejigyou/script/ipzenframe.asp).

Major changes in the copyright laws

In 2006 a bill to amend the Copyright Law, which will come into effect in July 2007, was enacted. The main point of the amendment is to decide the legal treatment of IP multicast broadcasting, but there were also several other changes. With one of them, it will be possible to send recorded books for visually-impaired persons through the Internet.

7. Conclusion

The 16th CDNLAO meeting will be held in the National Diet Library, Japan, in 2008. The National Diet Library will celebrate its 60th anniversary in that year and the meeting will be one of the commemorative events. The meeting is planned to be in autumn, around October. We hope the meeting to be a fruitful one for the future development of national libraries in the Asia and Oceania region. We look forward to the participation of many countries.

The NDL will continue to work on the library activities and projects mentioned in this report, seeking to contribute more to libraries in other countries including those in the Asia and Oceania region and to get closer cooperative relations with them.